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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/552,581	10/12/2005	Kazunori Yamate	2005_1580A	2533
52349 7590 03/19/2009 WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK L.L.P. 1030 15th Street, N.W. Suite 400 East Washington, DC 20005-1503				
EXAMINER				
TRAN, MY CHAUT				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2629				
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03/19/2009		PAPER		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/552,581

**Applicant(s)**

YAMATE, KAZUNORI

**Examiner**

MY-CHAU T. TRAN

**Art Unit**

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 December 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6-10 and 14-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 3-5 and 11-13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 October 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB08)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

#### ***Application and Claims Status***

1. Applicant's response filed 12/31/2008 is acknowledged and entered.
  2. Claims 1-16 were pending. No claims were amended, added, and/or cancelled.
- Therefore, claims 1-16 are currently pending and are under consideration in this Office Action.

#### ***Election/Restrictions***

3. Applicant's election with traverse of the species of claims 1 and 9 wherein claims 1 and 3-9 read on the elected species in the reply filed on 12/31/2008 is acknowledged. *However upon further reconsideration, the species requirement is withdrawn. Moreover, applicant traversal is on the ground that 'Groups I and II of the instant application satisfy the unity of invention requirement, and are thus improperly restricted, because they share a technical relationship involving the same special technical feature, thereby complying with Rule 13.2.'* is confusing since the Office Action mailed on 12/03/2008 is a species requirement and not a restriction requirement. Accordingly, claims 1-16 are under consideration in this Office Action.

#### ***Priority***

4. Receipt is acknowledged of papers, i.e. Japanese Application No. 2003-112355 that was filed on 04/17/2003, submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

5. Additionally, this instant application is a 371 of PCT/JP04/005415 filed on 04/15/2004, and as a result this instant application has the effective filing date of 04/15/2004.

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

6. The information disclosure statements (IDS) that were filed on 10/12/2005, 04/16/2008, and 08/21/2008 have been reviewed, and the references that have been considered are initialed as recorded in PTO-1449 form(s).

### ***Drawings***

7. The drawings were received on 10/12/2005 in regard to figures 3B and 7B. These drawings are acceptable.

### ***Specification***

8. Applicant is reminded that the substitute specification and abstract filed 10/12/2005 has been entered as indicated in the Office Action mailed 12/03/2008.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(c) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

10. Claims 1, 2, 6-10, and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yoshimura et al. (US Patent 6,847,415 B1).

For **claims 1 and 6-8**, Yoshimura et al. disclose a flat panel display unit (see e.g. Abstract; col. 1, lines 7-12; col. 3, lines 13-28; figs. 1A, 1B, 2A thru 2D, and 4). The display unit (ref. #1) comprises a chassis (ref. #2) (refers to instant claimed conductive chassis), a display panel (ref. #3), circuit board (ref. #4), and a flexible cable (ref. #5) (refers to instant claimed cable and instant claim 6) (see e.g. col. 4, line 35 thru col. 5, line 14; figs. 1A and 1B). As illustrated by figures 2A thru 2D, the chassis (ref. #2) comprises opposite surfaces (ref. #2-1 and 2-2) where the display panel (ref. #3) is attached to one surface (ref. #2-1) and the circuit board (ref. #4) is attached to the opposite surface (ref. #2-2) and the circuit board (ref. #4) and the display panel is attached to each other by the flexible cable (ref. #5) (refers to instant claimed limitations of a) chassis attached to the display panel; b) a plurality of substrates attached to the conductive chassis; c) cable electrically connecting the substrates) (see e.g. col. 4, lines 42-59; col. 5, lines 15-54). The flexible cable (ref. #5) extends from the display panel (ref. #3) to circuit board (ref. #4) on the opposite surface (ref. #2-2) of the chassis via the through-hole (ref. #2c) (refers to instant claimed a fixing member is provided which fixes at least a part of the cable between the substrates) (see e.g. col. 5, lines 15-54; figs. 2A thru 2D). As depicted by figure 1A, the flexible cable is a single layer structure as claimed in claim 7). The type of material use to form the chassis (ref. #2) includes aluminum (refers to instant claim 8) (see e.g. col. 5, lines 11-14).

For **claim 9**, Yoshimura et al. disclose a flat panel display unit (see e.g. Abstract; col. 1, lines 7-12; col. 3, lines 13-28; figs. 1A, 1B, 2A thru 2D, and 4). The display unit (ref. #1)

comprises a chassis (ref. #2) (refers to instant claimed conductive chassis), a display panel (ref. #3), circuit board (ref. #4), and a flexible cable (ref. #5) (refers to instant claimed cable) (see e.g. col. 4, line 35 thru col. 5, line 14; figs. 1A and 1B). As illustrated by figures 2A thru 2D, the chassis (ref. #2) comprises opposite surfaces (ref. #2-1 and 2-2) where the display panel (ref. #3) is attached to one surface (ref. #2-1) and the circuit board (ref. #4) is attached to the opposite surface (ref. #2-2) and the circuit board (ref. #4) and the display panel is attached to each other by the flexible cable (ref. #5) (refers to instant claimed limitations of a) chassis attached to the display panel; b) a plurality of substrates attached to the conductive chassis; c) cable electrically connecting the substrates) (see e.g. col. 4, lines 42-59; col. 5, lines 15-54). The flexible cable (ref. #5) extends from the display panel (ref. #3) to circuit board (ref. #4) on the opposite surface (ref. #2-2) of the chassis via the through-hole (ref. #2c) (refers to instant claimed a fixing member is provided which fixes at least a part of the cable between the substrates) (see e.g. col. 5, lines 15-54; figs. 2A thru 2D). Additionally, Yoshimura et al. disclose that the type of flat panel display unit includes a plasma display unit (see e.g. col. 1, lines 9-12; col. 4, lines 35-41).

For *claims 2 and 14-16*, Yoshimura et al. disclose a flat panel display unit (see e.g. Abstract; col. 1, lines 7-12; col. 3, lines 13-28; figs. 1A, 1B, 2A thru 2D, and 4). The display unit (ref. #1) comprises a chassis (ref. #2) (refers to instant claimed conductive chassis), a display panel (ref. #3), circuit board (ref. #4) (refers to instant claimed substrate), and a flexible cable (ref. #5) (refers to instant claimed cable and instant claim 14) (see e.g. col. 4, line 35 thru col. 5, line 14; figs. 1A and 1B). As illustrated by figures 2A thru 2D, the chassis (ref. #2) comprises opposite surfaces (ref. #2-1 and 2-2) where the display panel (ref. #3) is attached to one surface (ref. #2-1) and the circuit board (ref. #4) is attached to the opposite surface (ref. #2-

2) and the circuit board (ref. #4) and the display panel is attached to each other by the flexible cable (ref. #5) (refers to instant claimed limitations of a) chassis attached to the display panel; b) a substrate attached to the conductive chassis; c) cable electrically connecting the display panel and substrate) (see e.g. col. 4, lines 42-59; col. 5, lines 15-54). The flexible cable (ref. #5) extends from the display panel (ref. #3) to circuit board (ref. #4) on the opposite surface (ref. #2-2) of the chassis via the through-hole (ref. #2c) (refers to instant claimed a fixing member is provided which fixes at least a part of the cable between the substrates) (see e.g. col. 5, lines 15-54; figs. 2A thru 2D). As depicted by figure 1A, the flexible cable is a single layer structure as claimed in claim 15). The type of material use to form the chassis (ref. #2) includes aluminum (refers to instant claim 16) (see e.g. col. 5, lines 11-14).

For *claim 10*, Yoshimura et al. disclose a flat panel display unit (see e.g. Abstract; col. 1, lines 7-12; col. 3, lines 13-28; figs. 1A, 1B, 2A thru 2D, and 4). The display unit (ref. #1) comprises a chassis (ref. #2) (refers to instant claimed conductive chassis), a display panel (ref. #3), circuit board (ref. #4) (refers to instant claimed substrate), and a flexible cable (ref. #5) (refers to instant claimed cable) (see e.g. col. 4, line 35 thru col. 5, line 14; figs. 1A and 1B). As illustrated by figures 2A thru 2D, the chassis (ref. #2) comprises opposite surfaces (ref. #2-1 and 2-2) where the display panel (ref. #3) is attached to one surface (ref. #2-1) and the circuit board (ref. #4) is attached to the opposite surface (ref. #2-2) and the circuit board (ref. #4) and the display panel is attached to each other by the flexible cable (ref. #5) (refers to instant claimed limitations of a) chassis attached to the display panel; b) a substrate attached to the conductive chassis; c) cable electrically connecting the display panel and substrate) (see e.g. col. 4, lines 42-59; col. 5, lines 15-54). The flexible cable (ref. #5) extends from the display panel (ref. #3) to

circuit board (ref. #4) on the opposite surface (ref. #2-2) of the chassis via the through-hole (ref. #2c) (refers to instant claimed a fixing member is provided which fixes at least a part of the cable between the substrates) (see e.g. col. 5, lines 15-54; figs. 2A thru 2D).

Therefore, the device of Yoshimura et al. does anticipate the instant claimed invention.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

11. Claims 3-5 and 11-13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MY-CHAU T. TRAN whose telephone number is (571)272-0810. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday: 8:00-2:30; Tuesday-Thursday: 7:30-5:00; Friday: 8:00-3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard A. Hjerpe can be reached on 571-272-7691. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.



Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/MY-CHAU T. TRAN/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2629

March 19, 2009